

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Helping Indiana Forest Landowners

Quick Guide: Forestry Practices and Payment Rates



The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) administers the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). After conservation assistance and field visits have been completed, funding for recommended conservation practices may be available through EQIP. NRCS ranks EQIP applications based on a number of factors including current natural resource priorities. NRCS selects applications in order of their ranking score and preapproves those applications based on available program funds. Once the application is preapproved, NRCS completes development of the contract with the landowner based on practices and payment amounts identified during the application process. When the participant agrees to implement those practices, the application becomes an EQIP contract. After practices have been implemented to NRCS standards, NRCS issues payments based on the contracted payment rates.

NRCS establishes annual payment rates for completing a forestry management plan and installing different conservation practice activities. EQIP participants receive a specific dollar amount for each unit of practice they install. The 2018 Farm Bill recognizes landowners and operators who are socially disadvantaged, have limited resources and/or are beginning farmers. These individuals are eligible for a higher Historically Underserved (HU) payment rate. Military veterans who have never operated a farm or have operated a farm for 10 years or less are also eligible for HU payments. Below is a partial list of common EQIP forestry practice payments for fiscal year 2022 by practice code and name. Because many factors determine these rates, including average costs, rates may change in future years.

To learn more about the EQIP visit: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/in/programs/financial/eqip/>. Definitions of Limited Resource Farmers, Beginning Farmers, Military Veteran Farmers or Socially Disadvantaged Farmers can be found at: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/people/outreach/slbfr/>.

PLANNING	Units	General Applicants	Historically Underserved Applicants
[106] Forest Management Plan (FMP) - Conservation Planning Activity (CPA)			
FMP Less Than or Equal to 20 Acres	Each	\$730.54	\$876.65
FMP 21 to 100 acres	Each	\$913.18	\$1,095.81
FMP 101 to 250 acres	Each	\$1,582.84	\$1,899.41
FMP 251 to 500 acres	Each	\$2,069.87	\$2,483.85
FMP 501 to 1,000 acres	Each	\$2,556.90	\$3,068.28
FMP Greater Than 1,000 acres	Each	\$3,287.44	\$3,944.93
[165] Forest Management Design and Implementation Activity (DIA)			
DIA Less Than or Equal to 20 Acres	Each	\$608.79	\$730.54
DIA 21 to 100 acres	Each	\$1,034.94	\$1,241.92
DIA 101 to 250 acres	Each	\$1,643.72	\$1,972.47
DIA 251 to 500 acres	Each	\$2,496.02	\$2,995.22
DIA 501 to 1,000 acres	Each	\$2,983.05	\$3,579.66
DIA Greater Than 1,000 acres	Each	\$3,591.83	\$4,310.20
<i>CPA and DIA are developed by a Certified Technical Service Provider (TSP) to NRCS Standards</i>			
CPA and DIA are two parts of the Forest Management Plan. Details can be found at: https://go.usa.gov/xzhUr			
A Technical Service Provider (TSP) is an individual who has demonstrated the technical ability necessary to develop a CPA or DIA consistent with NRCS Standards. Indiana TSPs can be found at: https://nrcs-sites.secure.force.com/FindaTSP			

Implementation Table continued on page 2

IMPLEMENTATION	Units	General Applicants	Historically Underserved Applicants
[314] Brush Management			
Removal of Invasive Woody Understory, Light	Acres	\$78.45	\$94.14
Removal of Invasive Woody Understory, Medium	Acres	\$135.16	\$162.19
Very Heavy Brush Management	Acres	\$240.83	\$289.00
Removal of Invasive Woody Understory, Very Heavy	Acres	\$546.81	\$656.17
[394] Firebreak			
Vegetated Permanent Firebreak	Feet	\$0.12	\$0.15
Constructed Handline	Feet	\$0.08	\$0.10
[666] Forest Stand Improvement			
Forest Stand Improvement - Light	Acres	\$95.14	\$114.17
Forest Stand Improvement - Medium	Acres	\$116.50	\$139.81
Temporary Forest Openings, patch clearcuts	Acres	\$254.90	\$305.88
[655] Forest Trails and Landings			
Shaping and Grading	Feet	\$0.42	\$0.51
Water Bar Installation	Number	\$50.25	\$60.30
[315] Herbaceous Weed Treatment			
Blanket Treatment Multi Pass	Acres	\$88.89	\$106.67
Light Spot Treatment	Acres	\$24.31	\$29.17
Medium Spot Treatment	Acres	\$68.20	\$81.84
Tree & Shrub Post-planting Weed Control	Acres	\$68.80	\$104.16
[645] Upland Wildlife Habitat Management			
Habitat Monitoring and Management, High Intensity	Acres	\$24.33	\$29.19
[391] Riparian Forest Buffer			
Bare-root, trees and shrubs	Acres	\$1,013.76	\$1,148.98
[649] Structures for Wildlife			
Edgefeathering, Heavy	Acres	\$825.55	\$990.66
[643] Restoration of Rare or Declining Natural Communities			
Savanna or Prairie Restoration, Heavy	Acres	\$267.31	\$320.78
Woodland Restoration, Heavy	Acres	\$202.31	\$242.78
[612] Tree and Shrub Establishment			
Hardwood Establishment, Bareroot	Acres	\$844.28	\$945.61
Tree/Shrub Planted Area with Protection	Acres	\$895.76	\$1,074.91
Tree/Shrub Regeneration Area with Protection	Acres	\$663.80	\$796.56
Container Trees and Shrubs, 2 gallon or larger	Number	\$12.68	\$15.21
[660] Tree and Shrub Pruning			
Pruning	Number	\$0.65	\$0.78
[380] Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment			
1 Row Windbreak - Bare-rooting seedling Planting Stock	Feet	\$0.36	\$0.40
[650] Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation			
Within Row Replacement - Bareroot Stock	Feet	\$0.34	\$0.41

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